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FACTS

RELATING TO THE

REVEREND DR. WHITE'S

BAMPTON LECTURES.

BY R. B. GABRIEL, D. D.

LATE FELLOW OF WORCESTER COLLEGE, OXFORD.

THE SECOND EDITION.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY

JOHN BELL, BRITISH LIBRARY, STRAND;
And Sold by FLETCHER, at OXFORD; MERRILL, at CAM-
BRIDGE; MEYLER, at BATH; WOOLMER, at EXETER;
and SMART and COWSLADE, READING.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.



FACTS

LONDON: 1841.

BY THE REV. J. H. STODOLSKY.

LECTURES.



P. 17, last line in the Note
 P. 46, line 3, in the Note for
 P. 70, line 14, for "sixth" read "fifth"
 P. 110, line 18, for "had" read "had a"

and the same is the case with
 the other two and the third
 of the series of characters pro-
 posed, by the British Museum

of the British Museum and the
 of the British Museum and the
 of the British Museum and the

ERRATA.

P. 15, last line in the Note, after, "unhandsome expression"
---insert---and unwelcome Memento.

P. 46, line 3, in the Note, for, "first"---read---*First*.

P. 79, line 14, for, "*in Mercy*"---read---in Mercy.

Ditto, line 18, for, "bad purpose"---read---bad a purpose.

F A C T S

RELATING TO THE

REVEREND DR. WHITE'S

BAMPTON LECTURES.

WHATEVER effect the following publication may have upon the literary character of Dr. White, I entertain, and shall be ever ready to avow, the sincerest respect for his talents and his attainments.

I am convinced that the credit of the Church of England has been supported, and the general interests of Christianity promoted, by his illustrious labours in Oriental literature.

I give him most unfeigned and ample credit for the brilliant display of his ingenuity and taste in the Bampton Lectures---

and it is with the greatest reluctance that I bring forward such evidence, as may eventually deprive him of a part of that fame which he has hitherto enjoyed.

By motives of ill-will to Dr. White, I never was actuated. I am conscious of having endeavoured to extricate him from some difficulties, in which he was involved with the sister of the late Rev. Mr. Badcock; and for the failure of those endeavours, I cannot take any blame to myself.

If I should be asked then, what are my reasons for addressing the publick? I answer without hesitation, that they immediately and intimately concern myself---and that I come forward, not with any harsh and wanton design of injuring Dr. White's reputation, but for the indispensable and honourable purpose of vindicating my own.

I am too conscious of my own slender abilities to feel any emotions of envy at the exalted rank which Dr. White holds in the republick of letters---I am too sensible of the delicacy which is due to the claims and merits of a dignified ecclesiastic, to depreciate them without substantial proof, or to
arraign

arraign them without real and mortifying provocation. But, as a man, and as a clergyman, I know what is due to my own honour; and I shall always be ready to protect it against the clamours of the credulous, and the insinuations of the malignant.

That honour has been again and again insulted in the publick newspapers; and it surely deserves some consideration, that from my peculiar situation, every attack that is made upon my integrity, is not only offensive to my feelings, but may be dangerous to my own interests, and to those of my family.

Every clergyman must know too, that the efficacy of his preaching, very much depends on the purity of his moral character, and therefore he will be anxious to defend it from unjust assaults.

I can say, and I do say too, not without honest pride, that my acquaintance are numerous and respectable---that I have always endeavoured to merit their good opinion---that I have hitherto been fortunate enough to obtain it---that I am very anxious to preserve it---that I am in no danger of forfeit-
ing

ing it from private whispers, and dark surmises--but, that I feel it alike my duty and my interest to rectify those impressions which may be made even upon the best minds, when accusations are publicly produced, and are not publicly refuted. Silence in such a case would amount to an implied confession of guilt; and patience, under the unprovoked and reiterated attacks of anonymous slanderers, would betray a weak, and even criminal indifference to reputation.

With the charges that have been brought against me in the newspapers, I disdain to contend, in detail. Many of them are too vague, and too obscure, to admit a direct and specific answer; and most of them, probably, proceed from writers, whom confutation would not put to the blush.

I am willing to persuade myself, that Dr. White has no concern in the fabrication of these calumnies; but, as the Doctor has not thought proper, either to deny their truth, or to shelter me from their injurious consequences, he can have no right to be offended at my determination to do open and full justice to myself. I, as well as he, have a
character

character to support, in the University, in the Church, and in the World.

I am not ambitious of being considered as a man of great learning, but I cannot stoop to the infamy of being represented as a liar, and of giving efficacy to the representation by cowardly acquiescence.

Upon the degree of provocation, I have only to say, that it is such, as puts me under the absolute necessity of revealing the whole truth. In this opinion every unprejudiced man will concur with me, when he reads the gross and cruel charges which have been brought against my candour and my veracity---against that candour which for a long time induced me to suppress what I knew about the history of the Bampton Lectures ---against that veracity which has steadily adhered to fact in every thing which I have said about them.

I mean not to gratify the curiosity of my readers, but to appeal to their justice, when I entreat them to peruse what has been written against me. For this purpose I have collected from the publick papers, a * number

* I have heard of many more paragraphs in different papers to the same purpose, but I have here inserted those only which I have seen myself.

of slanderous paragraphs, and I now present them to the mind of the reader, in one view, and in all their collective force, whether of argument, or of invective.

From the MORNING POST, June 4, 1789.

“ Professor White has raised himself into
 “ so much notice and distinction by his cele-
 “ brated BAMPTON LECTURES, that the heavy
 “ drones of the church, who are unable to
 “ serve religion and morality, and at the
 “ same time signalize their own talents with
 “ equal success, are circulating a variety of
 “ reports in the vain hope of depriving the
 “ author of the credit which those admirable
 “ compositions have procured him.

* * * * *

* * * * * †

“ Finding, therefore, that the fame of Pro-
 “ fessor White could not be wounded by

† In this and some other paragraphs, parts of which are here republished, the name of Dr. Parr is introduced ; but I have omitted almost every passage which relates immediately to Dr. Parr, as foreign to the purpose of this publication.

“ means

“ means of * * * *, the enemies of the in-
 “ genious Professor have, with more policy,
 “ but it will eventually prove with as little
 “ success, tried to avail themselves of the
 “ maxim, that ‘ dead men tell no tales ;’ and
 “ now assert that the late Mr. Badcock was
 “ in reality the chief instrument employed
 “ in fabricating the BAMPTON LECTURES.

“ Mr. Badcock was undoubtedly a man
 “ of learning, but his genius lay in a very
 “ narrow compass ; and he was much better
 “ adapted for the cold office of a reviewer,
 “ than the animated province of original
 “ composition.

“ Professor White is a man whose learn-
 “ ing and ability are only to be equalled by
 “ his modesty and diffidence ; and therefore
 “ the anonymous defamers of such a charac-
 “ ter are doubly contemptible, in having se-
 “ lected so meek and unoffending a man as
 “ the object of their malice and obloquy.”

*From the WORLD, July 8, 1789 ; and from the
PUBLICK ADVERTISER, July 9, 1789.*

Professor WHITE, Dr. PARR, Dr. BADCOCK,
and Dr. GABRIEL.

“ White’s BAMPTON LECTURE Sermons,
“ which were and ever will be so celebrated,
“ have just occasioned a new bustle.

“ Badcock being dead, his papers, MSS.
“ &c. &c. were sold to Dr. Gabriel, who
“ has bought the Octagon Chapel at Bath.

“ Dr. Gabriel found among the papers, a
“ letter or two, which mentioned, on certain
“ conditions, some literary aid to be given
“ by Badcock to White, and for which
“ White gave a promissory note for 500l.

“ It was a common promissory note, which
“ Dr. Badcock’s sister has since demanded,
“ and Mr. White has since paid, with other
“ notes of 100l. each.

“ As to the aid in question, Dr. Gabriel,
“ why we know not, states, that it was for
“ the BAMPTON LECTURE Sermons ; Mr.
“ White’s account, more likely to be true,
“ says,

“ says, it was for his long-promised history
“ of Egypt†.” * * * * *

* * * * *

From the WORLD, *July* 20, 1789.

“ Professor White, Dr. Parr, and Bad-
“ cock.---The statement at large given in a
“ former World, seems now confirmed by
“ general opinion.

“ The fact is, Parr and Badcock’s com-
“ munications might together form in bulk
“ about two sermons of the volume.

“ The remainder, from the known powers
“ of White, and his acknowledged great
“ general learning, there cannot be a doubt
“ with any body but Gabriel, were White’s.

“ And indeed, as to Dr. Gabriel, his single
“ doubts are heard no more.”

† See Note, p. 8.

*From the GENERAL EVENING POST, July
25, 1789.*

“ Dr. Gabriel has threatened a pamphlet
“ on the subject of Professor White’s Lec-
“ tures; containing the proofs of that Gen-
“ tleman’s obligations, in the composition of
“ that work, to the late Mr. BADCOCK.

“ Quid dignum tanto feret hic promissor hiatu ?”

From WOODFALL’S DIARY, Aug. 5, 1789.

A HINT* to Dr. GABRIEL.

“ As Dr. Gabriel seems hurt at some ex-
“ pressions in the newspapers, in which his
“ name

* The Letter to which this *hint* refers, I here republish.

To the PRINTER of the ORACLE.

SIR,

As some anonymous, inaccurate, and fallacious represen-
tations have lately appeared in the publick papers, respecting
the BAMPTON LECTURES, preached and published by Dr.
White, in which my name has been brought forward in a
very unbecoming and unwarrantable manner; I find myself
under the disagreeable necessity of contradicting such parts

“ name has been used, a correspondent begs
 “ leave to ask, by what means his name was
 “ ever brought into question? and from
 “ whom, except from himself or Hutton,
 “ the report so injurious to Dr. White first
 “ originated? This report has been indus-
 “ triously propagated for some months, and
 “ yet no proof whatever of its foundation
 “ has been produced: the Doctor insinuates
 “ that he has proofs; but if he has, why
 “ not bring them openly before the world,
 “ and let the publick judge for themselves?
 “ It surely argues a very bad cause, when
 “ a simple circumstance requires so much
 “ time to find arguments to support it. If,
 “ however, the Doctor, in his intended dis-

as more immediately concern myself; though I disdain to
 contend with dark and officious scribblers of paragraphs,
 having sufficient proofs in my possession, to justify the opi-
 nion I have ever entertained, of Dr. White's *particular obliga-*
tions to Mr. Badcock. But as I think the subject too delicate
 and important for discussion in a newspaper, I must desire
 the publick to suspend their judgment, till they see proofs
 brought forth, in a more regular, and in a more respectable
 form, authenticated by my name.

Harlington Rectory,
July 21, 1789.

R. B. GABRIEL.

“ play

“ play of proofs, proposes to bring forward
“ a very essential one, that Mr. Badcock
“ was capable of writing those sermons, it
“ will be no matter of surprize if the publi-
“ cation be delayed for some months, per-
“ haps years longer. It will certainly re-
“ quire the utmost stretch of Gabriel’s in-
“ genuity, to produce a similar piece of com-
“ position to those sermons in all the avowed
“ writings of Mr. Badcock (and the writer
“ of this will venture to assert, if he cannot)
“ that self-importance, which disdains to re-
“ ply to a paragraph-monger, will not be
“ sufficient to convince the publick that Mr.
“ B. whose writings in general betray but
“ very slender abilities, could ever so far
“ exceed himself, as to compose the BAMP-
“ TON LECTURES.”

From the WORLD, Sept. 9, 1789.

“ An Oxford friend gives us this gratify-
“ ing intelligence, that Dr. White’s fame
“ is no longer likely to be annoyed by any
“ vague reports from Badcock, Parr, or Ga-
“ briel.”

From

From WOODFALL'S DIARY, Sept. 9, 1789.

“ Of the affair between Dr. Gabriel and
 “ Dr. White, this *must* be the decision of
 “ every impartial man. If the charge be
 “ true, the Gentleman against whom it is
 “ brought — — —* ; if false, the
 “ person who makes it is guilty of a mean,
 “ cowardly, and malicious slander. But since,
 “ whether true or false, it casts *some* slur on
 “ Dr. White's reputation, and certainly
 “ lowers his character, however unjustly, in
 “ *some* degree in the general opinion, it was
 “ cruel and illiberal to prefer such an accu-
 “ sation, without proving that it was founded
 “ by the producing some *immediate* and *con-*
 “ *vincing* evidence ;----which evidence has
 “ certainly not been produced.”

The following letter in the St. James's Chronicle, of October the 24th, appeared in answer to one which was published in the same paper, October the 20th, and of which the Author is totally unknown to me. I re-publish it, because it contains, in common with some of the preceding Paragraphs, very

* In this extract from the newspapers, and in several others, I have omitted, as far as I could, every uphandsome expression and unwelcome *Memento* relating to Dr. White.

unhandsome and unjust reflections upon my Friends and myself.---To enter into the particulars is foreign to the purpose of this Pamphlet. But the time may come, when Dr. White will have reason to be sorry for the insinuations, which his advocate has thrown out, not only against myself, but against a very respectable Clergyman, from whom Dr. White himself *most certainly* received assistance, and who is able to do himself justice, whenever he thinks proper to explain a conduct, which *I know* to have been distinguished by *Candour, Delicacy, and Moderation.*

“ DOCTOR WHITE.

“ *To the Printer of the ST. JAMES’S CHRONICLE.*

“ SIR,

“ I presume, that upon a subject where
“ impartiality and candour ought to be the
“ only considerations, you will not scruple
“ to pay that attention to the one party,
“ which has been already afforded to the
“ other. Your correspondent *Indagator*
“ *Oxoniensis* has laid himself open to criti-
“ cism ; but his style he may correct at his
“ leisure---I shall only endeavour to ex-
“ pose

REV. DR. WHITE'S BAMPTON LECTURES.

“ pose the futility of his reasoning ; and
“ cannot but wonder that he should hope,
“ by any sophistry, to reconcile to common
“ sense this ridiculous argument, ‘ that it
“ is incumbent on Dr. White to answer an
“ accusation which never has been formally
“ brought forward.’ On grounds thus in-
“ supportable does Indagator call upon the
“ Professor to vindicate his literary charac-
“ ter ; and here, Sir, let me aver, that
“ whatever may be the foundation on which
“ Dr. Gabriel proceeds----whatever the
“ sources of evidence his coadjutors may
“ possess, yet all that they have as yet
“ asserted is defamation. For though their
“ charges have been continually echoed
“ from newspaper to newspaper, yet have
“ they never fairly and candidly laid open
“ to publick view those papers, of which
“ they so loudly proclaim the possession ;
“ and have thus given existence and reality
“ to the embryo phantom with which they
“ have so long laboured. Till then, Sir,
“ it would in my opinion ill become the
“ Professor to appear before the world un-
“ called on but by anonymous insinuations
“ or unsupported assertion. Your corres-
“ pondent

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“ pondent asks, ‘ whether Dr. Gabriel hath
“ not taken every opportunity to declare,
“ that he is in possession of original docu-
“ ments, on which he grounds his assertion,
“ that the late Mr. Badcock contributed a
“ very large proportion to the celebrated
“ Lectures?’ True—But do the mere decla-
“ rations of Dr. Gabriel carry unlimited
“ conviction, and preclude the necessity of
“ proof? He proceeds, ‘ Has not Mr. Hut-
“ ton publicly and repeatedly asserted?’
“ And let me ask---are Mr. Hutton’s asser-
“ tions the absolute test of truth? No, Sir;
“ it is incumbent on these accusers, to bring
“ into the field weapons of a more serious na-
“ ture; and had they behaved with liberality,
“ their proofs would have foregone (or at
“ least accompanied) their assertions. I shall
“ not go into the general question relating to
“ the BAMPTON LECTURES, farther than to
“ affirm, that however splendid the abilities
“ of Dr. Parr---however great the industry
“ of Mr. Badcock---yet to have formed the
“ plan of that Work, to have traced the steps
“ of Mahomet through paths which the re-
“ searches of Oriental History alone could
“ have laid open, these pursuits were in-
compatible

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“ compatible with their studies, and beyond
“ the reach of their powers. But, Sir, un-
“ attended with the corroboration of evi-
“ dence, unsupported but by newspaper vi-
“ rulence, do they expect by clamour and
“ abuse, to degrade the merits of a man
“ long eminent for literary services, and
“ who possesses almost exclusively the ar-
“ duous summit of eastern science? If such
“ be their hopes, highly indeed must they
“ think of publick judgment, and publick
“ justice.

“ Dr. Gabriel has forced himself into no-
“ tice as the accuser of the Professor, let him
“ now, assisted by the abilities of a Parr,
“ and by the eager *benevolence* of Mr. Hut-
“ ton, come forward with his accusation and
“ his *facts*; those *facts* will speak for them-
“ selves; and then may his partisans with
“ some degree of propriety, be clamorous
“ for an answer to their wilful misrep-
“ sentations, and premeditated falsehood.

“ *Oxford Coffee House,*

“ *Wednesday Evening.*”

“ VINDEX.

Upon this Letter, and the foregoing para-
graphs of my accusers, I forbear making any
other

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other comment than this---that no man who regards his honour, and is conscious of having spoken truth, and of being able to support it by evidence, such as I possess, would tamely and for ever submit to such injurious and aggravated indignity.

From the GENERAL EVENING POST.*

TO DR. GABRIEL.

Rev. Sir,

“ You have asserted in the publick prints,
“ that you could prove the particular obligations Dr. White was under to Mr. Badcock. The world, Sir, now calls upon you
“ loudly for the proof. The rumour is become general that Mr. Badcock is the real
“ author of the BAMPTON LECTURES, published under the name of Dr. White.

* * * * *

* * * * * †

* The reader will agree with me in thinking, that as the two following letters call upon me to publish, they ought not to be omitted---and that as they are written in a polite and liberal manner, they ought to be separated from the slanderous paragraphs quoted above.

† See the Note in p. 15.

“ Say

“ Say no longer, Sir, that you disdain
“ anonymous writers. The most powerful
“ motives, the interests of truth and litera-
“ ture, compel you to detect so base an im-
“ position on the learned world. If you
“ continue silent on this important subject,
“ it will, I fear, be suspected that you have
“ rashly commenced an attack on the charac-
“ ter and abilities of the Laudian Professor,
“ which you have not the power to sup-
“ port.

“ Come forward then, Dr. Gabriel, come
“ forward with your proofs. * * * *

* * * * *

I am, Rev. Sir,

A FRIEND TO MERIT.

From WOODFALL'S DIARY, *Sept.* 17, 1789.

To the PRINTER of the DIARY.

SIR,

“ Much has been said in your paper, as
“ well as in other morning and evening

See the Note, p. 15.

C

“ papers,

“ papers, respecting the attack upon Dr.
 “ White, by Dr. Gabriel ; in which also no
 “ little scurrility has been made use of
 “ against the latter. It is not by any means
 “ generous to suppose, that a character like
 “ that of Dr. Gabriel, so zealous in the sup-
 “ port and encouragement of merit as he is
 “ acknowledged to be, would either ma-
 “ liciously invent, or wantonly disseminate
 “ reports, disgraceful to the literary emi-
 “ nence of the Arabic Professor. And very
 “ careful ought the publick to be, in the
 “ degree of credibility they give to so fla-
 “ grant a charge of plagiarism, or it may
 “ be said, imposture. Dr. White has long,
 “ and *they say* meritoriously enjoyed, not
 “ only the good name of the publick, but
 “ the reverence of the literary world : not a
 “ little may be advanced in his favour ; but
 “ why did he not smother the undermining
 “ scintillations of rumour before they burst
 “ out into a general conflagration of enquiry ?

* * * * *

* * * * *

† See the Note in p. 15.

“ But

“ But let Dr. Gabriel speak for himself.
 “ No man can be imagined to possess more
 “ authentick testimonies of the assertion now
 “ held forth against the Bamptonian Lec-
 “ tures, than *him whom Mr. Badcock left
 “ as executor† to his will. And let not our
 “ unwillingness to believe, condemn the
 “ credibility of the evidence which is pro-
 “ duced. Let not our veneration for a
 “ character, *thought ever so eminent, swell
 “ us into an opinion of its infallibility. In
 “ the mean time, Sir, candour demands us
 “ to withhold that judgment, which the
 “ novelty of the circumstance, and the seri-
 “ ousness of the accusation, might excite us
 “ to pronounce. And then, *audi alteram*
 “ *partem*, ought to be the law of justice in
 “ literary, as well as in civil contentions.
 “ And let it not be forgotten, that two
 “ Ecclesiastics of dignity and respectability
 “ are concerned; that they each claim a
 “ tenderness and regard from the publick
 “ situation of their characters; that much
 “ depends upon the importance of truth,

* See the original.

† This is a mistake

“ in the discussion of the subject in dispute ;
“ and, I confess, these are the only reasons
“ which incited me to trouble you with this
“ letter, who am equally at a distance from
“ and independant of both Dr. W. and Dr.
“ G. but who feel myself somewhat inte-
“ rested in the decision of so weighty a
“ question, as a Divine, even though

A COUNTRY CURATE.

Sept. 12, 1789.

I am confident, that no man of correct judgment and delicate feelings can require me to answer, particularly and minutely, what has appeared in the newspapers---but, as I stand engaged to produce that evidence, upon the strength of which, I have asserted, that Dr. White was under *particular obligations* to Mr. Badcock, this pamphlet will shew, that I do not shrink from the performance of my engagement.

I now bring forward, parts of the Correspondence from Dr. White to Mr. Badcock ; ---but it is proper for me to observe, that from the first part of the evidence to be produced

duced, I conclude that Mr. Badcock was materially concerned in the BAMPTON LECTURES; and in making that conclusion, I think myself neither precipitate nor uncandid; but as to the precise degree in which he assisted Dr. White, I shall insist upon nothing in the way of inference from such parts of the Lectures as are specified in Dr. White's Letters; ---neither will I suggest any presumptions about Mr. Badcock's share, be it greater or less, in the remaining parts which are not specified.---Every reader of discernment and impartiality, will determine upon these delicate points for himself. My business is to produce the evidence of which I am possessed, and I am answerable only for producing it faithfully, and to such an extent, as to justify the language I have used about Dr. White's *particular obligations* to Mr. Badcock.

‘ OXFORD, Nov. 27, 1783.

‘ DEAR SIR,

‘ After expressing my grateful acknowledgments for the politeness and hospitality with which you did me the honour
‘ to receive me in the country, I must beg
‘ your

‘ your pardon for troubling you with a very
 ‘ hasty scrawl; as my attention has been
 ‘ wholly engrossed this morning by some
 ‘ particular College business.

‘ Your friendly offers of literary assistance
 ‘ have relieved my mind from a great load
 ‘ of anxiety; and if, when the Lectures are
 ‘ finished, a draft of fifty pounds, and what-
 ‘ ever can be produced by the sale of the
 ‘ copy, will not be beneath your acceptance,
 ‘ I shall with sincere gratitude transmit it to
 ‘ you. As I am personally acquainted
 ‘ with Cadell and Bathurst, and can besides
 ‘ have the warmest recommendation from
 ‘ Dr. Johnson to the former, and Dr. Parr
 ‘ to the latter, I think 50 or 100 pounds
 ‘ may be expected to arise from the sale of
 ‘ the copy.

‘ The parts I particularly wish you to
 ‘ undertake, are, Lectures I. VII. and VIII. §

‘ Of the first I have nothing further to say
 ‘ than to desire, if it can be done with pro-

§ What is here called the VIIIth Lecture, may be the IXth,
 which in the second edition is printed in two parts.

Dr. White is well known to have preached an additional
 Lecture. R. B. G.

‘ priety,

‘ priety, that some elegant compliment may
 ‘ be paid to the University. Lecture the
 ‘ VIIIth §, I leave wholly to yourself. The
 ‘ VIIth, (or the different effects of Christianity
 ‘ and Mahometism) I shall send you some
 ‘ time hence a large skeleton of. The fol-
 ‘ lowing is a Prospectus of it.

PART I.

‘ Opens with a view of the present state
 ‘ of Christian and Mahometan countries;
 ‘ the liberty, learning, &c. of the one, con-
 ‘ trasted with the slavery and ignorance of
 ‘ the other. From this view it is natural to
 ‘ enquire, Whether there are any permanent
 ‘ causes, in the nature of the two religions of
 ‘ these effects. Division of this enquiry into
 ‘ their influence on the character of the in-
 ‘ dividual and that of nations.

‘ I. The influence of any system of re-
 ‘ ligious opinions, on the character of the in-
 ‘ dividual, is to be estimated by its tendency
 ‘ either to improve, or debase the powers of
 ‘ his mind. Division of these into his intel-

§ See the Note, p. 22.

‘ *lectual* and *moral* powers, and view of the
 ‘ effects of these two systems of Religion upon
 ‘ these powers.

PART II.

‘ The three great features of *national* wel-
 ‘ fare are, (1.) Freedom, (2.) Peace, (3.) Sci-
 ‘ ence. It will therefore be the object of
 ‘ this part to explain the tendency which
 ‘ Christianity has to promote these ends,
 ‘ and that which Mahometism has to pre-
 ‘ vent them. Conclusion in favour of Chris-
 ‘ tianity, as affording every possible motive
 ‘ which religion can afford, to the improve-
 ‘ ment and dignity of the human character,
 ‘ and to promote national welfare, &c. &c.
 ‘ &c. &c. &c.

‘ Our correspondence must be a profound
 ‘ secret: the world suspects that my journey
 ‘ has not been a mere excursion of pleasure,
 ‘ ---You will therefore please to direct your
 ‘ letters to me, thus, *To John Richardson,*
 ‘ *Esq. Wadham College, Oxford.*-----Mr.
 ‘ Richardson has been member of our Col-
 ‘ lege,

‘ lege, and now lives in London ; and I shall
‘ give strict orders to the Porter to bring all
‘ letters thus addressed, immediately on re-
‘ ceiving them, to me. The letters I send
‘ to you, I shall myself give into the hands
‘ of the post-man, as he goes out of Ox-
‘ ford.

‘ Dear Mr. Badcock, your great learning,
‘ your great understanding, your great vir-
‘ tues, have not produced a more warm ad-
‘ mirer, or a more faithful friend, than you
‘ have in me.---I speak truth only, when I
‘ assure you, that I shall rank your friend-
‘ ship among the very first honours, and
‘ happiest events of my life. God bless
‘ you.

J. W.,

‘ The only persons to whom I have com-
‘ municated the plan of my Lectures, are,
‘ Dr. Parr, the Archbishop of Canterbury,
‘ Mr. Stinton, and yourself.’

‘ *To the Rev. Mr. BADCOCK.*’

D

OXFORD,

‘ OXFORD, *Dec. 9, 1783.*

‘ MY DEAR FRIEND,

‘ Your Introduction to Lect. I. (dated
‘ Dec. 5,) gives me the most perfect satis-
‘ faction. It is extremely ingenious, and
‘ incomparably excellent. I did not think
‘ it possible for my remarks to have been
‘ introduced with such perfect propriety.

‘ I have also been successful, and have hit
‘ on a method of introducing the Christian
‘ doctrines of atonement, &c. &c. in a happy
‘ manner. The detail of my ideas, on every
‘ part of my plan, you may expect to re-
‘ ceive from me soon. This day, unfortu-
‘ nately, I happen to be very particularly
‘ engaged.

‘ I am very sorry to hear you have been
‘ so much indisposed: and earnestly exhort
‘ you to use more exercise, and to take all
‘ possible care of your health.

‘ Your’s, very affectionately,

‘ J. WHITE.’

‘ *The Rev. Mr. BADCOCK,
South Molton, Devon.*

‘ MY

‘ My DEAR FRIEND,

‘ I have received four franks, containing
 ‘ the whole of Lecture II. as far as I had
 ‘ finished it, when I was at S. Molton.
 ‘ Dr. Parr is at present employed in revising
 ‘ this Lecture, and has already sent me his
 ‘ revision of the first half, executed in a mas-
 ‘ terly manner. The Lecture, as I have now
 ‘ altered the latter part, concludes with a
 ‘ view of Mahometism during the three or
 ‘ four first centuries after the death of Ma-
 ‘ homet, &c. &c. &c. The substance of this
 ‘ I shall send you hereafter, with a view to
 ‘ the Christian contrast.

‘ Of Lecture III. or the history of Chris-
 ‘ tianity, (which is to exhibit a striking view
 ‘ of the various obstacles that opposed the
 ‘ first promulgation and the progress of our
 ‘ religion, up to its final establishment) I
 ‘ have already sent you two small parts in
 ‘ two letters. The first part began with
 ‘ these words :---Text, Acts i. ver. 48. ‘ In
 ‘ a former discourse upon these words, it
 ‘ was my endeavour to point out the fallacy

‘ of an argument which has been often ap-
‘ plied,’ &c. The second part ended with
‘ these words---‘ Took him and began to re-
‘ buke him, saying, Be it far from thee,
‘ Lord, this shall not happen unto thee.’---
‘ These two parts, constituting the Exordium
‘ of Lect. III. I presume, you have ; and I
‘ request the favour of you to undertake the
‘ subject from this place, and to continue
‘ it up to the final establishment of Christi-
‘ anity. I devolve the whole business on
‘ yourself. The object is to shew, that there
‘ were such apparently insuperable obstacles
‘ to Christianity through its whole progress,
‘ that it would have been impossible for it
‘ ever to have succeeded without the divine
‘ interposition.—Heads that may be enlarged
‘ on in the first part of what remains to be
‘ written :---‘ Humble birth, poverty, and
‘ meanness of Christ’s appearance totally
‘ opposite to the expectations of the Jews---
‘ consequent improbability of the success of
‘ his preaching---State of religion among
‘ the Jews---their zealous attachment to the
‘ ceremonial law---held by them of eternal
‘ obligation---different opinions of the Pha-
‘ risees

' risees and Sadducees---united however in
 ' a fierce opposition to the gospel-*--State
 ' of the Roman empire---its greatness and
 ' the accuracy of its policy---The state of
 ' science and general intelligence---Spiritual
 ' nature of Christianity---ill fitted to the
 ' minds of men accustomed only to the gross-
 ' est opinions in religion---Humility and
 ' meekness of Christian character, very un-
 ' like the fiertè and pride of Roman charac-
 ' ter---consequent improbability of its suc-
 ' cess among a people proud of conquest
 ' and national dominion, and devoted to mi-
 ' litary honour---Despised character of the
 ' Jews---of all nations the most unlikely to
 ' give opinions to the people of Rome,' &c.
 ' &c.

' I sent by the coach last Monday two
 ' Tracts---one by Jortin, and the other by
 ' West---both written with great elegance
 ' on this subject. They may be useful to
 ' you. Concerning the obstacle which op-
 ' posed the progress of Christianity from
 ' the Apostolic age, up to its final establish-

* N. B. This * is in the original.

' ment,

‘ ment, I have no hints to suggest to you,
‘ and you need none. The part where we
‘ encounter Gibbon, ought to be brilliant ;
‘ and the conclusion of the whole must be
‘ animated and grand.

‘ You need never return me *any papers I*
‘ *send you.* I have a copy of the Exordium
‘ of Lect. III. If the first part of this Lec-
‘ ture has miscarried, it is not very material.
‘ Its contents were only, ‘ An account of the
‘ state of Judea---of the general expectation
‘ of a Messiah---erroneous notions of the
‘ Jews concerning the character of the Mes-
‘ siah---carnal interpretation of the prophe-
‘ cies---hopes of a temporal prince.’

‘ I most earnestly intreat you to finish
‘ this third Lecture, as soon as it suits your
‘ convenience ; and to adapt your manner
‘ of writing, as much as you possibly can, to
‘ the style of my printed sermon. Your
‘ scripture allusions are extremely happy ;
‘ but in the sermons which I have already
‘ preached before the University, I have
‘ used these allusions but sparingly. Will
‘ it not be right for us to approach as nearly
‘ as we can to former specimens? *I will*
‘ *certainly*

‘ *certainly send you* by next Saturday’s post
‘ the Analysis of the five last Lectures.

‘ Your’s, most sincerely,

‘ J. WHITE.’

Jan. 8, 1784.

‘ P. S. In future your letters, addressed
‘ to Mr. Parsons, will be punctually brought
‘ to me unopened. By this means the ex-
‘ pence of double postage will be avoided,
‘ and the same end answered.’

‘ *To the Rev. Mr. BADCOCK,*
‘ *South Molton, Devon.*’

‘ OXFORD, *July* 14, 1784.

‘ MY DEAR FRIEND,

‘ At length the whole business of preach-
‘ ing is over ; and I have the satisfaction of
‘ informing you, that the last sermon (on
‘ the Propagation) was as well received as
‘ the first. Your most valuable communi-
‘ cations, during the course of these Lec-
‘ tures,

‘ tures, have contributed very greatly to
 ‘ give them the celebrity they possess ; and
 ‘ your ardent, and unwearied zeal to serve
 ‘ me, at this important crisis, will be always
 ‘ remembered by me with the most heart-
 ‘ felt gratitude.

‘ I am not a little embarrassed at present
 ‘ about the mode of publication. A Gentle-
 ‘ man has seriously offered 200l. for the
 ‘ right of copy, and engaged to supply me
 ‘ besides with the thirty books which it is
 ‘ necessary for me to distribute amongst the
 ‘ Heads of Colleges. Some advise me to
 ‘ accept, others to reject this offer. In this
 ‘ dilemma, I have written to Murray and
 ‘ Cadell, desiring to know whether they
 ‘ would chuse to make me any proposals, on
 ‘ the idea of sharing the expences and profits.
 ‘ I expect their answer this week ; and I re-
 ‘ quest the favour of you to inform me ex-
 ‘ plicitly which of the two modes you your-
 ‘ self prefer, as you are solely concerned in
 ‘ this part of the business. * * * *

* * * * *

† The close of this letter contains some private matter, not
 connected with the Bampton Lectures, and therefore is not
 produced.

* * *

* * * * *

‘ I am, my dear Mr. BADCOCK,

‘ Your’s, most sincerely, affectionately,

‘ and gratefully,

‘ J. W.

‘ *To the Rev. Mr. BADCOCK,*

‘ *South Molton, Devon.*’

‘ OXFORD, *July 27, 1784.*

‘ MY DEAR FRIEND,

‘ Oxford is at present a scene of confusion,
‘ on account of the races. All our friends
‘ from the neighbourhood are visiting us.

‘ I have therefore only time to acquaint
‘ you, that the second Sermon (on the His-
‘ tory of Mahometism) is to be put to press
‘ on Monday sev’night. My Notes on the
‘ Mahometan History will be copious; but
‘ I want some Remarks on the Christian part,
‘ which I here send you. Send me every
E thing

‘ thing you can, by way of Annotation, as
‘ soon as possible ; and keep this copy by
‘ you. I shall send you the remainder of
‘ this Sermon, and Lecture III. by the coach
‘ this week, with the same view. The nu-
‘ merals in red are meant as points of refe-
‘ rence for the notes, and for any emenda-
‘ tion of the text that may be proposed.
‘ My own copy is marked in the same
‘ manner.

‘ I am much disappointed in not being
‘ able to visit you the beginning of next
‘ month. I fully expected that the Vice-
‘ Chancellor would have paid me Mr. Bamp-
‘ ton’s money, as soon as the Sermons had
‘ been preached, before printing. I must
‘ therefore defer my visit till the Sermons
‘ are published.

‘ Your’s ever faithfully,

‘ J. W.

‘ *To the Rev. Mr. BADCOCK,*
‘ *South Molton, Devon.*

‘ OXFORD,

‘ OXFORD, *Dec. 2, 1784.*

‘ MY DEAR FRIEND,

‘ I am very sorry it is not in my power
‘ to make another remittance just at present:
‘ though I hope to do it before long. * *

* * * * *

‘ I have, however, some better news to
‘ acquaint you with: My friends have paid
‘ Prince’s bill (101*l.*) for publishing the Ser-
‘ mons: and the clear profits of the edition,
‘ which are calculated at 90*l.* will conse-
‘ quently come into my hands. The book
‘ sells most rapidly, and meets here with
‘ universal approbation. It is the opinion
‘ of every one, that it must come to a second
‘ edition this winter. Permit me again to
‘ return you my most grateful acknowledg-
‘ ments for the very friendly and essential

† I have left an hiatus, because the original in this place contains a passage, which I keep back from motives of delicacy; and from the same motives I shall not produce the P. S. of this letter.

‘ services you have done me on this occasion :
‘ without you, the work could not have been
‘ produced, and all my prospects must have
‘ been for ever closed.

‘ Yours, with the sincerest respect

‘ and affection,

‘ J. W.

‘ *To the Rev. Mr. BADCOCK,*

‘ *South Molton, Devon.*’

In the foregoing letters, I have confined myself strictly to the subject of the BAMP-
TON LECTURES ; and, I leave the evidence
which they furnish, to produce its proper
effect, without endeavouring to facilitate or
increase that effect, by precarious conjectures
or invidious comments. One requisition,
however, I must make to Dr. White---He
cannot forget the contents of other letters,
which have fallen under my notice ; and he
ought to acquit me of a disposition to injure
him, when he considers, that I have hitherto
produced nothing but what relates to the

BAMPTON

BAMPTON LECTURES only; and that, even *this* evidence is published for no other purpose, than to vindicate myself from the imputation, of having judged of his application to Mr. Badcock uncharitably, and having spoken of it untruly.

Possessed as I was, of clear and authoritative evidence, in Dr. White's own handwriting, I was under no necessity of racking my invention to multiply aggravations, or of attempting to '*display any ingenuity*' in collecting arguments. The truth of all I have said, and the propriety of all I have done, depend not on doubtful and circuitous reasoning, but upon plain and indisputable facts.---I have long known those facts, and if I have been long in bringing them forward, the delay is to be imputed, not to distrust in my own cause, but tenderness towards the reputation of Dr. White. I might have produced without provocation, what provocation alone, has now compelled me to produce. But I suppressed truth, till I found myself under the necessity of confuting falsehood. I left the publick in a state of ignorance, till, it became my duty to rescue them from a state
of

of delusion. I spared Dr. White, till the advocates of Dr. White did not spare me.

As to vague and general conjectures about what Mr. Badcock could *not* do, I think it invidious for other men to state them, and not very necessary for me to refute them, because I have undertaken to shew, generally, what he has done. For the sake, however, of mere curiosity, I will enquire a little into the reasoning upon which those conjectures seem to be founded, for the purpose of shewing, that the same reasoning will be followed by the same conclusions, whether applied to Mr. Badcock, or to Dr. White. Much stress then has been laid, upon the disproportion that subsists between the acknowledged publications of Mr. Badcock, and the distinguished excellence of the Bampton Lectures. Now, Mr. Badcock is known to have been of an active mind, and much in the practice of composing sermons. Dr. White is generally supposed, to be rather of an indolent turn: and they who, like myself, allow that he can write well, will not be hardy enough to maintain, that he has been in the habit of writing much. Mr. Badcock was indisputably

tably brilliant in conversation, in which Dr. White, with all his powers and all his attainments, seldom attempts to excel. Mr. Badcock has written largely and ably upon Theological subjects, in opposition to Dr. Priestly, and to Mr. Madan,---and I believe, that the publick curiosity was never excited more powerfully, nor gratified more fully than by his Criticisms on the *Thelyphthora*, and on the *History of the Corruptions of Christianity**. Dr. White also, previously to the BAMPTON LECTURES, published a sermon on the Septuagint, which abounds with judicious remarks, and is written, in a very perspicuous and elegant style, yet, the criticisms of Mr. Badcock, and the ser-

* I do not press any argument that may be drawn in Mr. Badcock's favour, from a Charity sermon which he printed at Bath in the year 1787, and for the *matter* of which, he is said to have been indebted to some composition of a dignified clergyman in the church of Exeter. I use the word *matter*, because I consider the style as Mr. Badcock's own, and because I see in this hasty production, some marks of the same brilliant language, which appears more frequently in many parts of the Bampton Lectures, upon which he probably bestowed more labour. I mean not to extenuate the *supposed* plagiarism of Mr. Badcock, but I may be permitted to say without offence, that in my presence at Bath, he dictated a considerable part of this sermon to an Amanuensis, and did not consult any book, or manuscript, while he was dictating.

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mon of Dr. White, stand perhaps below the degree of excellence which is found in the Bampton Lectures---and therefore, every inference drawn from the inequality of their former publications, is no less applicable to Dr. White, than to Mr. Badcock, unless it should be contended, that the Reviews written by the one, have shewn less ability, than the Sermon of the other.---For my part, I admire both; I have no desire to degrade either by comparison with the other---but, if a preference were to be given, it would not be *so* decisively in favour of Dr. White, as to prove that HE was *exclusively* able to rise to higher excellence, when he treated of different subjects, and employed a different style.---After all, investigations of this kind, are in the present question altogether superfluous; and I must say, without reserve, that the insinuations thrown out against Mr. Badcock's ability to write, are the effect, either of the weakest prejudice, or the grossest injustice. Dr. White, I am sure, will not countenance them now, because he has himself confuted them before.---He confuted them, when he desired Mr. Badcock to assist him---when
he

he accepted that assistance with the strongest professions of gratitude---and, when he acknowledged, that he was in a very high degree indebted to it, for the '*celebrity of his work.*'

Whatever may be the ignorance of Dr. White, in the ordinary affairs of the world, he undoubtedly has the gift of extraordinary discernment, in estimating the intellectual powers, and literary acquisitions of his friends.---On a subject so interesting to his immediate reputation, and contingent preferment, as the BAMPTON LECTURES, he would not have condescended even to consult the opinion, much less to accept the aid of Mr. Badcock, if he had not been previously convinced of Mr. Badcock's Erudition, Judgment, and Taste. Indeed, the acknowledgments of the Doctor, respecting his intention to employ Mr. Badcock, in a part of the Egyptian History, incontestibly prove, that he gave him credit for such a degree of talents, as would not have disgraced the language of the BAMPTON LECTURES. Mr. Badcock's claims, therefore, to literary excellence, are established, by the decisive testimony of Dr. White himself---by the testimony which he

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gave

gave to Mr. Badcock, in his Correspondence about the Lectures---by the testimony which he has given to his own friends, in conversation about the History. I am confident then, that Dr. White will find himself obliged to vindicate his own judgment, and his own veracity, by repelling every attempt which has been made to depreciate the abilities of a man, whom he had honoured with such high praise---whom he had admitted to such unreserved confidence---and whom he had deigned to employ in one work that had gained, and in another that was likely to gain, such an uncommon share of publick attention, and publick approbation. Again let me say, that I mean not to make any invidious, and impertinent determinations upon their comparative merits ; but while I allow that Dr. White is entitled to respect, I cannot suffer the vague and malicious suggestions of unknown writers to persuade the world, that Mr. Badcock was not a man of very great abilities.

The force of Dr. White's concessions, is not to be explained away, by hazardous, and unwarrantable presumption, that his gratitude

tude overpowered the suggestions of his judgment, and that he gave Mr. Badcock much more praise, than he seriously supposed Mr. Badcock to deserve. After every deduction that can be made for the ardent, and exaggerated language of friendship, they who read Dr. White's letters must allow, that in Dr. White's opinion, Mr. Badcock was capable of writing for the BAMPTON LECTURES ; and therefore, they will resist the calumnies of Dr. White's advocates, some of whom have confidently pronounced, and others have impertinently insinuated, that no proof existed in favour of Mr. Badcock's capacity ; and indeed, that he was utterly incapable of rising to that force of thinking, and that splendor of diction, which the public justly admire in the volume, to which Dr. White's name alone is prefixed.

In addition to the written evidence, which has been laid before the reader, I shall now bring forward, some circumstantial and subordinate proofs.---They relate to what has passed in conversation among some of Mr. Badcock's friends ; and to prevent any mistakes, I shall lay before the reader, an extract

tract from a letter, which Mr. Hutton sent to me, and from which I have Mr. Hutton's express authority, to quote the following words :---

‘ BROAD STAIRS, *near* RAMSGATE, Sep. 20.

* * * * *

* * * ‘ Mr. Badcock plainly and
‘ expressly declared to Mr. Hutton, that he
‘ was the author of a very considerable part
‘ of the work---at the same time, he said,
‘ that there was some other assistant, and
‘ asked Mr. Hutton, if he could guess from
‘ what other quarter White procured that
‘ aid, which was not supplied by Badcock ?

‘ He mentioned his own assistance to Sir
‘ John Chichester, in such terms as plainly
‘ implied, that he was the Author of a con-
‘ siderable part of the BAMPTON LECTURES.’

* * * * *

* * *

‘ Your's, most sincerely,

‘ H. H.

‘ Rev. Dr. GABRIEL.’

I will

I will now relate what passed between Mr. Badcock and myself.---In consequence of some offence which Dr. White had given to Mr. Badcock about a Sermon (on Prov. viii. 17.) which Dr. White had obligingly lent to me, (and, I have lately heard, to others) as an Original written by himself, and testified to me as such, by his own handwriting, but which I accidentally discovered to be the sole production of Mr. Badcock, the latter told me, peremptorily and indignantly, that this very Sermon was his own production, and lent by himself to Dr. White, with an express injunction, that it should not be lent by the Doctor to any other person; and, he added, without requiring any secrecy from me, that Dr. White lay under farther obligations to him for assistance in the BAMPTON LECTURES; that, in consequence of such assistance, he had received certain *pecuniary promises* from him, not one of which he had ever fulfilled---that he had not only delayed the performance of these promises, but that he now, and for some time past, had the * as-

* I distinctly remember Mr. Badcock's use of this strong word---and, indeed, the whole conversation made a most deep impression on my mind.

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surance to treat him in the most disdainful manner, by declining his correspondence, and even neglecting to answer his letters.--- This conversation took place on the 26th day of March, 1788, not long after my acquaintance commenced with Mr. Badcock. I confess, that I was astonished, and, for a time, provoked at this information.---So rooted was my respect for the talents of Dr. White, and so sincere my conviction about the complete authenticity of the Sermons which bore his name, that I resisted Mr. Badcock's assertion to Mr. Badcock's face---He immediately subdued my scruples, by shewing me, in his own hand-writing, different parts of the * Seventh Lecture, which correspond-

* I do not know, that any other parts of the BAMPTON LECTURES now exist in Mr. Badcock's hand-writing, except one half sheet of the first Lecture, with which I have been very lately favoured.—It was sent to me by Mr. Hutton, who received it from a very respectable friend of Mr. Badcock. Upon comparing it with the printed Lecture, I find here and there a few variations.

Mr. Badcock, it is very well known, generally wrote his Sermons in short hand; and this circumstance is, perhaps, to be lamented, as it prevents his friends from selecting and publishing such Discourses, as might have done credit to his memory, and at the same time might have been advantageous to his Sister.

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ed, almost *verbatim*, with the printed Lecture; and which appeared to have been preached by Mr. Badcock, in the presence of his own congregations, at Barnstaple, and South Molton. There was no date, but the Sermon bore every mark of having been written, *long before I saw it. My opinion, doubtless, was fixed in favour of Mr. Badcock's veracity, when he appealed to a testimony so apposite and direct; but I never proclaimed the opinion itself, to the possible prejudice of Dr. White, while Mr. Badcock was living---and my motives for proclaiming it afterwards, arose from some circumstances, which happened about a Note of Hand, when Mr. Badcock was dead.

It is necessary for me to remark, that in this endeavour to justify myself, I do not think it incumbent on me, to stand forward as the panegyrist, or even the advocate of Mr. Badcock. Whether he was right or wrong, in revealing to his friends, the share which he had in the BAMPTON LECTURES,

* N B. Mr. Badcock had entirely quitted his situation at Barnstaple, as a teacher, before Dr. White introduced *himself* to his acquaintance.

must be left to the determination of others. Let me, however, be permitted to suggest, that in his conversation with me, he was influenced by motives of just resentment, rather than vanity; and that he did not betray Dr. White, till Dr. White, as he thought, had deceived and injured him.---But with Mr. Badcock's motives, I have no direct concern; and I state my own opinion about them only upon the authority of what he told me about Dr. White's behaviour to him. He may be blameable for speaking truth itself; but he certainly is not to be accused of having told a falsehood. Others may reproach him for want of delicacy; but it happily is in my power to rescue him, from the imputation of want of veracity.

If Mr. Badcock were living, it is possible at least, that he might explain his conduct to the satisfaction of Dr. White's friends;---and, as he is dead, his own friends will not lose sight of his talents and his virtues, in consequence of accusations which come forth, when he has lost the power of confuting them.

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In the beginning of this pamphlet, I have stated the reasons, which induce me to publish the evidence I had obtained, either from Mr. Badcock's conversation, or Dr. White's letters. I have next brought forward the evidence itself, for the purpose of shewing, that I was neither rash, nor unjust in maintaining, that Mr. Badcock was materially concerned in the BAMPTON LECTURES. ---It now remains for me, to explain what has passed since Mr. Badcock's death, in relation to a Note of Hand for 500l. subscribed by Dr. White.

The absurd and false reports which have gone abroad on this subject, make it necessary for me to trespass on the patience of the reader ; and as Dr. White's conduct towards Miss Badcock, and injurious language to me, were the first, and indeed the only motives, which induced me to say, *in private conversation*, that he was assisted by Mr. Badcock---it is proper for me to shew, that this very conduct, and this very language, were such, as to justify me in telling my acquaintance of the services, which Dr. White had received.

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I do

I do not think it incumbent upon me to prove, for what purpose this note was originally drawn up by Dr. White. Miss Badcock, was firmly of opinion, that it was given for services actually performed in the BAMP-
TON LECTURES: Dr. White, explicitly maintains, that it was for services hereafter to be performed in the Doctor's intended History of Egypt. Whatever opinion I may think the more probable upon this disputed point, I shall abstain from all decision upon it. That the note was valid for some reason or other, I had no doubt; and the reader can have none, when he finds that Dr. White, who had in some stages of the business, hung off from the payment, has since agreed to pay the whole, and actually has paid a considerable part.

Now, whether the note was, or was not, obligatory in point of law, I do not venture to decide; and upon farther consideration, I suspect that it was not, because it makes no mention of '*value received*;'---but I did conceive it binding, in point of honour; for if it were not so, Dr. White would hardly have employed me to negotiate with Miss
Bad-

Badcock the payment of money, to which she was not entitled, either in honour, or in law. Dr. White, it is true, did object to the legal validity of the note, because it was not *payable to order*---a circumstance in which he triumphed, because, as he said, Mr. Badcock was dead ; but, upon which I laid very little stress, so far as it affected the rights and the interests of Mr. Badcock's Sister, who was living. But the second legal objection arising from the omission of '*value received*,' did not then occur to the Doctor, or myself---and, as to the point of honour, I saw no other difficulty than what proceeded from the *Egyptian History. The improbability of any man's engaging to pay 500 l. for a work neither finished, when the note was dated, nor likely to be finished, from Mr. Badcock's declining state of health, prevented me from considering this objection as of much weight. But I stated it, as will hereafter appear, to Miss Badcock, who still persevered in her former opinion, that the note was given to her Brother, for services

* The reader will have this farther explained to him hereafter.

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* The reader will have this farther explained to him hereafter.

very little connected with the Egyptian History. I did not then, and I do not now, contradict Dr. White's assertion ; but, as I was not fortunate enough to believe it, I was not disposed to urge it very strongly in my conversation with Miss Badcock.

In what follows, I think it necessary to be *very minute*.

On the 28th day of May, 1788, receiving intelligence of Mr Badcock's death, I the next morning hastened to London to enquire into the particulars of it, and with the friendly desire of having his remains deposited in my Parish Church at Hanworth in Middlesex: I no sooner arrived in Town, than I called at the house of a very respectable and particular friend of Mr. Badcock, who told me that he had been dead more than a week, and was already interred in the parish of St. James, Westminster, in which he died. His friend then asked me, if I knew his circumstances, and mentioned a Note of Hand, for 500l. subscribed by a Mr. White of Oxford, which was found in his pocket book, at Sir John Chichester's, at whose house he died---but, he added, that it was imagined the Note was of no real value

lue, as the circumstances of *Mr. White*, were reported to be by no means competent to the payment of it. I told him, that I was utterly unacquainted with *Mr. Badcock's* circumstances, but I took it for granted, that they were not affluent---that I had not long since a hint given me respecting the Note from *Mr. Badcock himself*; that I knew *Mr. Professor White*, of Oxford, very well; and that he was daily expected in Town, to wait upon the Chancellor, who had, (out of mere respect to his great literary merit, as I had been informed) just presented him to a Prebend, in the Church of Gloucester; and that, with his permission, I would mention the discovery of the Note to the Professor on his arrival in Town, who, I had no doubt, would readily discharge it, as soon as it was in his power.

Mr. Badcock's friend, in answer to this, told me, that I might mention to the Professor the subject of our conversation, and added, that it would be doing a very essential service to *Mr. Badcock's* Sister, who was, as he understood, far from being in good circumstances.

stances.---I then took my leave of this Gentleman, and promised to do what I could in the behalf of the Sister of my late and much lamented Friend---but I desired him, at the same time, (notwithstanding, as it may be supposed, I could not be satisfied with the Professor's late conduct) not to mention what had passed between us, lest any thing should transpire concerning the Note, to the possible prejudice of Dr. White's reputation.

Hearing the Professor was arrived in Town, I went thither the week following, (the 4th of June, 1788) when I mentioned to him, what I had heard respecting the Note of Hand. He received the intelligence with apparent confusion and displeasure---and at first even attempted to disprove his having given such a Note!---but recollecting himself, he urged, that *if* he had given it, yet it was not *payable to order*---and, that Mr. Badcock was now dead---that it was not given for the BAMPTON LECTURES, but for another work, which he soon intended publishing, viz. the History of Egypt. I told him plainly, that, in my opinion, it was given for services he had received from Mr. Badcock
in

in the BAMPTON LECTURES, and I gave him my reasons for thinking so, by relating to him the whole of the * conversation between Mr. Badcock and me, on the 26th day of March, 1788. I took this opportunity also, of remonstrating with him, for having deceived me, with respect to the Sermon which he had himself borrowed of Mr. Badcock, who was the author of it ; but, which he had lent to me (so long ago as the year 1785) as his own composition : I also spoke very freely to him on the indelicacy and injustice of his having mentioned to a Clergyman, and mutual friend, the *literary* obligation he had conferred, with the addition of such terms, as my friend thought he could not, with propriety, conceal from me---because, if the accusation was just, I could no longer be worthy of his esteem---if otherwise, I might have an opportunity of proving the illiberality of his reflections.

I must here do the Professor the justice to say, that in consequence of this conversation, he did not hesitate to make a full and ample apology for his behaviour ; but, without any precise explanation for his

* See p. 45.

conduct,

conduct, or suffering me to enter into any vindication of mine. Agreeably to his own proposal, we dined together on Friday, June 7, 1788, at the Oxford Coffee-House in the Strand; and he there added the following P. S. to a letter I was writing to the friend in question.

(COPY.)

P. S. ' OXFORD COFFEE-HOUSE, *June 7, 1788.*

' DEAR SIR,

' The ideas I suggested to you (in haste)
' concerning Dr. Gabriel, were very ill
' founded. I was wrong, and have begged
' his pardon. I believe there does not exist
' a more friendly, or more worthy character.

' Your's ever,

' J. WHITE.

' *The Rev.* — — —,

' — — —.'

But to return to our previous conversation about the note---I told him, that the public
lick

lick in general would think with me---that it was given for the BAMPTON LECTURES---if the story went abroad. I took the liberty also of pointing out, and even urging, the dangerous consequences, which such a story might produce, to the Professor's reputation: and I added, that I could not see the probability of his representation of the matter, when he spoke of the Note, as given for the Egyptian History. He contended, that it certainly was given for that History; and that as Mr. Badcock had not furnished the expected assistance, he did not think himself bound to pay the Note. He then said, that he could shew me some written *Documents*, (I quote his own words) from which it would appear to me, that the Note was given really and solely for the History: but, as Miss B. was not in good circumstances, he declared himself ready to make her *some* pecuniary acknowledgment.

It was agreed between us, that I should go down to South Molton; and that in my way thither, I should receive the *Documents*, which were intended to prove, that the Note did not relate to the Lectures, but to the

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History.

History. At the same time I was commissioned by Dr. White to shew the *Documents* to Miss Badcock, and to make the best bargain I could for both parties.

I went down to Exeter, in my way to South Molton; and at Exeter, instead of being furnished with the *Documents*, I received the following letter, which renewed the authority, and enlarged the powers, of my commission.

‘ BATH, *June* 15, 1788.

‘ DEAR SIR,

‘ Having a little business to transact at
‘ Bristol to-morrow, I came hither to-day
‘ solely to pay a visit to you.

‘ I wished to have shewn you some papers,
‘ in the hand-writing of a deceased friend,
‘ which, I think, would have cleared up all
‘ difficulties with regard to the Note.

‘ As, unfortunately, I have not the pleasure
‘ of finding you here, I must beg you
‘ to present my respects to Miss B. and to
‘ assure her, that though the meaning of the
‘ Note has been misunderstood, yet I wish

‘ to

‘ to settle matters with her in the most
‘ friendly manner. I have no doubt but she
‘ has behaved with strict honour, in a point
‘ of such delicacy.

‘ If a personal interview is necessary, I
‘ am ready to meet Miss B. (with the proper
‘ Documents) either at Bath or Exeter, when-
‘ ever she pleases in July ; if she refers the
‘ matter to you, as a common friend, per-
‘ haps I may have the pleasure of meeting
‘ you at Oxford, during our week of Com-
‘ memoration. I leave every thing to your
‘ discretion, and shall acquiesce in every
‘ thing you may think proper to do on this
‘ occasion ; and remain,

‘ Dear Sir,

‘ Your’s, very sincerely,

‘ J. W.

‘ P. S. Please to direct to me at Oxford.---

‘ I hope I shall have finished my business
‘ at Gloucester by this day se’nnight.

‘ *To the Rev. Dr. GABRIEL, (of Bath)*

‘ *At the London Inn, Exeter.*

‘ *To be left till called for.*

‘ *(Under Cover, sealed)*

‘ *To the Rev. Dr. GABRIEL, of Bath.*’

After

After receiving this letter, I went to South Molton, and related to Miss B. Dr. W.'s objections to the payment of the Note; but I was still impressed with the improbability of the transaction---and that impression, was confirmed by Dr. White's delay in sending the *Documents*, which he had promised to send to Exeter; and which, if I had received them, would have been of considerable importance in the negotiation with Miss Badcock. As they came not, I suspected that they had no existence.---I related also, all that had passed on the subject between the Professor and myself in London.

Miss Badcock produced the original Note, of which the following is the copy.

‘ WADHAM COLLEGE, OXFORD, *Aug.* 7, 1786.

* ‘ £500.

‘ I promise to pay to the Rev. Mr. Samuel
‘ Badcock, of South Molton, Devon, the
‘ sum of five hundred pounds, at or before

* N. B. This promissory Note of Hand was formally and legally written upon a shilling stamp.

‘ the

‘ the times hereafter specified, viz. fifty
‘ pounds in the present month, one hundred
‘ pounds in the next Oxford Lent Term,
‘ and three hundred and fifty, in July or
‘ August 1787.

‘ Witness my hand,

‘ JOSEPH WHITE.’

I prevailed on Miss B. not to insist on immediate payment, but to receive the money in five different sums of 100l. each, on, or within a week after, the 30th of November, annually, till the whole was paid.

After this, I proceeded to Oxford, in consequence of Dr. White's letter---and I went thither, with the fullest conviction that I had settled the business in such a manner, as to satisfy the Doctor, no less than Miss Badcock---but, in this expectation, I was unfortunately disappointed.

I met Dr. White at Oxford, in St. Mary's Church, on the 26th day of June 1788, and, after Sermon, he engaged me to dine with him

him in his room, at Wadham College, the next day.---I went, and unexpectedly met the Rev. Mr. Griffith, Fellow of Hertford College; in his presence I did not presume to bring forward the interesting conversation which I intended to have with Dr. White---and, it is rather remarkable, that Dr. White himself did not start the subject. The next day I called on the Professor, when he was alone; I opened the business, and I not only found him dissatisfied at the result of a journey, undertaken at his request, and performed at my own expence, but I was accused of being in league with Miss B. to *pick his pocket*. (I remember the very words.) Incensed at this charge, I declared that if he persisted in it, I would lay his whole conduct before the University; and I gave him till the next morning to re-consider the matter. I called at the appointed time, but the Doctor, during a long and warm conversation, neither retracted the charge, nor apologized for the affront,---and *therefore*, I mentioned the matter among my Friends at Oxford---a consequence of which I had forewarned Dr. White the preceding day, and

and which, he did not endeavour to avert, at our second meeting. To this unmerited indignity offered against myself, and to the appearance of something like evasion with Miss Badcock, must Dr. W. impute all the effects of what I had avowed my intention to say, and afterwards did say, in the University. My Friends told what I had said to others ; and the story, of course, soon became publick.

In this second conversation, the Professor still seemed unwilling to fulfill his engagement with Miss Badcock ; he talked, indeed, of making her a visit, and managing the business for himself, but he gave me no clear and distinct account of the *manner* in which it was to be managed. He suddenly resumed, and most firmly supported his former objection, founded upon the circumstance of the Note's not being *payable to order*, and told me, that he had taken Counsel's opinion on the subject ; (permitted I must be to say, that in this plea, I found rather the sagacity of a *well-managing* Attorney, than the simplicity of an Academical Recluse, or the liberality of a Gentleman.

man) He again maintained, in terms more peremptory than before, that the Note of Hand was given for the Egyptian History only; and he told me, that among his papers, I should find a clear proof that it was so. The only paper I found, which could *possibly* refer to it, was as follows, in Mr. Badcock's hand-writing, and which I had the Professor's express permission to copy.

‘ SOUTH MOLTON, *Sep.* 2, 1786.

* * * * *

* * * ‘ You have required secrecy
‘ as to a Memorandum, inclosed in a former
‘ letter; yet I must say, that it will never
‘ be made any use of by me, or by any one
‘ , for me, living or dead. It shall be return-
‘ ed at demand, and therefore let it never
‘ give you one moment's pain.’ * * *

* * * *

Whether the word *Memorandum* did, or did not, mean the same as Note, can be known only to the parties themselves; but I have, *since* that interview, found among
Mr.

Mr. Badcock's papers, a letter from Dr. White, in which the same *Memorandum* (as I now suppose) is referred to, and from which it plainly appears, that some negotiation was passing between him and Mr. Badcock, respecting the Egyptian History.

‘ HATTON, near WARWICK, Sept. 6, 1786.

‘ MY DEAR FRIEND,

‘ I have received your's of the 2d inst.
‘ and thank you most sincerely for your
‘ kind offers of assistance with respect to
‘ my Egyptian History. I am at present
‘ engaged more than two thirds of the day
‘ in completing my Latin work, which is a
‘ Prodrômus to the English, and requires
‘ great care and attention. This will em-
‘ ploy me, I think, about a fortnight, or
‘ three weeks longer.

‘ When the Latin is finished, I shall form
‘ the plan of the English work, as exactly
‘ and fully as I can, and immediately trans-
‘ mit it to you. I shall likewise give you a
‘ list of all the best authors, who have writ-
‘ ten on the diff^t: parts of the subject.

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‘ In

‘ In the mean time, I am amusing myself
‘ with drawing up that Lecture, which con-
‘ cludes the Dynasty of the Ptolemies, and
‘ exhibits the reign and death of Cleopatra.
‘ When I have finished it, I shall have the
‘ pleasure of sending it to you, and hope
‘ for a few touches from your admirable
‘ pencil.

‘ In general, I request the favour of you
‘ to turn in your mind that part of the
‘ Jewish History, which is connected with
‘ Egypt. The Mosaic chronology is to be
‘ ably defended against the accounts given
‘ us of the high antiquity of Egypt, by the
‘ Egyptian Priests, &c. and the objections
‘ of Bolingbroke, Voltaire, &c. &c. to the
‘ authority of Sacred History, will merit some
‘ reply. The history of the Jews, from the
‘ arrival of Joseph into Egypt till the Exodus,
‘ will furnish copious matter for argumen-
‘ tation and eloquence. The characters of
‘ Joseph and of Moses, would, I conceive,
‘ be highly proper in this part ; and no man,
‘ I am certain, could draw them better than
‘ yourself.

‘ When

‘ When I have a few moments leisure, I
‘ will write to you again. All I meant with
‘ regard to the Memorandum, was to guard
‘ against Hutton’s seeing it, in case you
‘ happened to receive the letter and open it
‘ in his presence. I have not the least ob-
‘ jection to your Mother or Sister’s seeing it.

‘ Your’s,

‘ most sincerely and gratefully,

‘ J. W.

‘ *To the Rev. Mr. BADCOCK,*
‘ *South Molton, Devon.*

As Dr. White contends, that the Note for 500 l. respects a future payment for a future service, I am at liberty to suppose that the following letter, which is of a later date than that just now produced, refers either in part, or in the whole, to pecuniary or literary services already received.

‘ OXFORD, Nov. 2, 1787.

‘ MY DEAR AND WORTHY FRIEND,

‘ I am this day returned from an excursion into Warwickshire, and have only this moment received your Letter.

‘ I think I can promise absolutely to send you a twenty pound Note within this fortnight ; and if you want fifty pounds more, I will endeavour to procure it for you. I understand, the Tythes of my Living, for the first year, are to be paid me about the 10th. Make yourself perfectly easy about pecuniary matters.

‘ Your’s, most faithfully,

· J. W.

‘ You will hear from me again soon. At present I am very particularly engaged.

‘ *To the Rev. Mr. BADCOCK, West Sandford,
near Crediton, Devon.*

When

When the terms of the Note were so plain and determinate, and when Dr. W.'s declaration of having agreed to give so large a sum of money for a future service was so improbable, I was for a long time convinced, that the Note respected only the Lectures. As Mr. Badcock was so ill, and as Dr. W. must have foreseen the consequences of the discovery of the Note, I thought it very unlikely that the Professor should not take some effectual step for recovering it from Mr. B. if he had really no right to enforce it.

Upon examining some papers which have been lent to me, *since our interview at Oxford*, I am inclined to believe, that the Note was intended partly as a reward for services done, and partly as an encouragement to future services in the History of Egypt.

But this is merely my private opinion; and even into this I have been led, not by the *one* very doubtful *Document*, which Dr. W. produced, but by various letters, in which there are broken, dark, and imperfect allusions to the History, and to money concerns. In those letters, however, I must observe, that the History and the Note, are in no
one

one passage clearly connected. But in the letters which Dr. White wrote to Mr. Badcock, after the publication of the BAMPTON LECTURES, there *is* the clearest connection between the assistance given by Mr. Badcock in those Lectures, and some money which Dr. White intended, or at least promised to pay to Mr. B. How far Mr. B. had proceeded in his assistance to the History, and therefore earned, *in part*, the money which Dr. White professes to have offered with a view to the whole of that work, is best known to the Doctor himself. I only know, that the Doctor has displayed specimens of some brilliant passages, in the hearing of several of *his* acquaintance. But I presume not to determine by whom they were written.

As to the largeness of the sum, it gave me no difficulty ; for Dr. White had received large payments for his two editions of the Lectures, and had reason to expect considerable preferment, which he has since obtained.

But to return to our conversation at Oxford.---Dr. White, as I before said, told me,
that

that he would go down to South-Molton, and settle the business with Miss Badcock, for himself, within a fortnight. I then took my leave of the Doctor.

I find that he went down to South Molton, and came into terms less advantageous than those I had made for him ; for he engaged to pay the whole money, in half the time, for which I had agreed with her on his account, and which appears by the following letter from Miss Badcock.

‘ SOUTH MOLTON, *July* 28, 1788.

‘ SIR,

‘ I am extremely obliged to you for your
 ‘ very genteel and friendly letter, and like-
 ‘ wise for the trouble and friendship you have
 ‘ taken, and shewn in my affairs respecting
 ‘ Dr. W. I should have answered your
 ‘ last favour sooner, but waited till I had
 ‘ seen or heard from Dr. W. who, on
 ‘ the 22d. instant, called on me, and gave
 ‘ me Five Promissory Notes, payable in one
 ‘ hundred pounds, at the end of every six
 ‘ months, till the whole is discharged. * *

* * * * *

‘ He

‘ He has promised me a remittance of
‘ one hundred pounds very soon. I shall
‘ see how he will perform that promise, and
‘ from thence judge of his future per-
‘ formance.

‘ It is out of my power to accept of your
‘ kind invitation to wait on you, as my
‘ Uncle is in a very melancholy situation.
‘ I hope to pay my respects to you, and
‘ your Lady, when I hear of your arrival
‘ at Bath.

‘ I have not received my Brother’s trunk.
‘ As soon as I receive it, I shall trouble you,
‘ Sir, with a parcel.

I am, Sir,

‘ Your most humble

‘ and obedient servant

‘ S. BADCOCK.’

‘ To Dr. GABRIEL.’

Having now no immediate commission
from Dr. White to proceed in the business,
I know not what happened subsequent to
July 28th, 1788, except what appears from
the

the following extract of another letter from
Miss Badcock, dated

‘ SOUTH MOLTON *August 26th*, 1788.

‘ SIR,

‘ I ask your pardon for not answering
‘ your last obliging letter sooner. I should
‘ have wrote when I sent off the parcel,
‘ part of the contents of my late Brother’s
‘ trunk, but Indisposition prevented it.

‘ When Dr. White left me, he promised
‘ I should hear from him in a few days, but
‘ I have not heard a syllable from him since.

* * * * *

‘ I am, with great respect,

‘ Sir,

‘ Your obliged and most humble Servant,

‘ S. BADCOCK.

‘ P. S. Dr. W. is very much against my
‘ coming to Bath.’

On November 20th, Miss B. tells me,
that she will bring all Dr. White’s letters
and papers to Bath.

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It may not be improper for me here to remark, that whatever evidence Dr. White might have to prove, that the Note related only to the Egyptian History, he had voluntarily and unconditionally agreed to ratify it, in his visit to Miss Badcock. He cannot therefore complain of Mr. Badcock's Friends for prevailing upon him either by argument, or persuasion, to pay what he did not owe. By his own act and deed, he has given to Miss Badcock Five Notes, the validity of which is indisputable, however obscure may be the cause of the original Note, for which they were substituted.

On Christmas day last, I received the Professor's first Note of Hand for 100l. in a letter from Miss Badcock, who desired me to receive the money for her. I did receive it, of the Reverend Mr. Richards, Fellow of Exeter College, and I have since received from him, a second payment of the second Note; so that only 300l. more remain to be paid by Dr. White.

Long after the story had gone abroad, and after I had pledged myself to the Publick to produce my evidence, I received a letter,
dated

dated *South Molton, Aug. 18, 1789*, which was written by a relation of Miss Badcock, whom she commissioned to write to me, as she was herself much indisposed. Inclosed in it were the two following letters, in Dr. White's hand-writing.

‘ MY DEAR FRIEND,

‘ I have not yet prepared my Analysis ;
‘ if any thing occurs to you, on the subject
‘ of Egypt in general, be so good as to
‘ commit it to paper. I shall write to you
‘ soon more particularly.

‘ If you receive this note, and the inclosed
‘ paper, I *earnestly request* that you will take
‘ *no notice* of them in any letter you may do
‘ me the favour of sending me.

‘ Your's, most affectionately,

‘ J. W.

‘ Superscribed,
‘ *Private Memorandums.*
‘ *Monthly Review.*

‘ OXFORD, *May* 28, 1788.

* ‘ DEAR MISS BADCOCK,

‘ I have just read in the publick papers,
‘ with inexpressible grief, that your good
‘ Brother, and my worthy Friend, is no more.
‘ ----Nothing could possibly have been a
‘ greater shock to me, as I had just formed
‘ (only a day or two ago) the plan of com-
‘ ing into Devonshire, as soon as Term was
‘ out, and of spending a fortnight with him
‘ at South Molton, in the beginning of July.
‘ But human life, we all feelingly know, is
‘ exposed to the most bitter disappoint-
‘ ments.

‘ I most sincerely condole with you on
‘ this melancholy occasion. You have lost
‘ the best of Brothers---I have lost a most
‘ sincere and valuable friend---Learning has
‘ lost one of her brightest ornaments, and
‘ Religion one of her ablest defenders.

‘ What adds particularly to my concern,
‘ is, that I have not lately been so punctual

* It is somewhat remarkable, that Dr. White never told me of his having written this letter to Miss Badcock.

‘ a cor-

‘ a correspondent to your good Brother, as
 ‘ he had reason to expect. This matter I
 ‘ hoped to have cleared up entirely to his
 ‘ satisfaction, in my visit in July. But, alas!
 ‘ it is now too late.

‘ I now take the liberty of requesting a
 ‘ great favour of you. You know there
 ‘ was a long correspondence between your
 ‘ Brother and me, in which some things past
 ‘ entirely of a confidential nature. Might I
 ‘ request the favour of you to collect toge-
 ‘ ther from his Manuscripts *all the papers of*
 ‘ *every kind that are in my hand-writing, and*
 ‘ *to keep them in your own possession till the be-*
 ‘ *ginning of July*, when I shall be in Devon-
 ‘ shire, and shall wait upon you with what-
 ‘ ever I possess *belonging* to your Brother.
 ‘ In doing this, you will render me an infi-
 ‘ nite service.

‘ I request the favour of a line from you,
 ‘ addressed to me at Wadham College, Ox-
 ‘ ford, and am, Dear Miss Badcock,

‘ Your very obliged,
 ‘ and most obedient Servant,
 ‘ J. WHITE.

‘ *To Miss BADCOCK,*
 ‘ *(Sister of the Rev. Mr. Samuel BADCOCK)*
 ‘ *South Molton, Devon.*

I pub-

I publish these letters, not only because Miss B. did not desire them to be suppressed, but because they were sent in consequence of a letter, which I wrote to her, and in which I requested her to furnish me with every paper that might lead to my vindication.---I had received several other papers from her long before,---I know not of any terms which she has made with Dr. White for secrecy. I suppose such terms not to have been made, because Miss B. has had many opportunities for informing me of them, if they had been made; because, in her correspondence with me, she never mentioned any such terms having been proposed to her---because she readily supplied me with every paper for which I asked---because she has often expressed herself much obliged to me for the concern which I have shewn, both for her interests, and for the memory of her brother.

In the foregoing statement of facts, then, I have produced several letters, which fell into the hands of Mr. Badcock's Sister, after the death of her Brother; which were lent to me at my own request, and which are
now

now published with her approbation. Many of them, doubtless, are of a private and confidential nature---nor would they have been produced, if the production of them had not been necessary to throw light upon many mysterious parts in the conduct of Dr. White---to procure for her Brother some portion of the praise due to his talents---and to assist me in vindicating my own honour, from insinuations which I have not deserved, and from reproaches to which I ought not to submit.

It has lately been said by one person, whom, *in Mercy*, I will not name, that ‘ *it is easy to steal letters, to rob a man of his reputation.*’

How easy so bad an action, done for so bad purpose, may be, I leave to be determined by others, who can speak from that experience, which I do not myself profess to have, in such miserable practices. But to most men of common sense, and common honesty, it probably will *not* appear very easy to *steal* letters, or to steal reputation. In respect to myself, I have *not* stolen any letters belonging to the late Mr. Badcock ;
for

for those, which are now published, were put into my hands by his Sister, the only legal owner. I have *not* attempted to *rob*, nor to deprive Dr. White of any degree of reputation, which is properly his own. I suppose too, that the Professor does not wish to deprive his late friend Mr. Badcock, of the praise, which may be due to him for *his* share in the BAMPTON LECTURES.

I know not, whether Dr. White thinks it easy for himself, or any other Scholar, to steal reputation: but they who are acquainted with the Doctor's negligence about papers, may suppose it *really* easy for some of his visitors to steal letters in the Doctor's possession.---Will the Doctor then say, that I took away any of the papers which he authorized me to inspect at Oxford? Has he *forgotten* their contents, or can he charge me now with officiously laying before the publick *every particular*, which, at our interview, I was permitted to read, and which, being an injured man, I, perhaps, am not strictly obliged to conceal? *In reality*, I have suppressed nothing which may lead to his
vindica-

vindication ; and I may not have told all that I know of another kind.

Upon the subject of Letter-stealing, I must beg leave to remind my accuser, that Dr. White was under stronger inducements to run some risques in endeavouring to preserve his own reputation, than I *could* be, if I had been disposed without provocation to attack it. He knew of his own letters to Mr. Badcock, long before I had seen or even heard of them. In the very first letter which he wrote to Miss Badcock, after the death of her Brother, he expressed a wish to obtain some papers which were in her possession. He, probably, was conscious of having much to gain by recovering them, whereas it was impossible for me to look forward to the smallest portion of that literary fame, which Dr. White might lose, upon the discovery of his having received assistance from Mr. Badcock. Why then should I be accused of doing without temptation, what I have never imputed to Dr. White, who had a *great* and *visible* interest in procuring the letters, which I have been said to steal? Yet I

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ought not to suppose that Dr. White is capable of such a crime ; and my Accuser has no right whatever to represent me, as having been actually guilty of it.

The publick, I conceive, are somewhat more interested in knowing the contents of Dr. White's letters, than in tracing out the means, by which I am possessed of them. I do not, however, shrink from any enquiry of this sort ; and accordingly I have laid before the reader the occasions upon which I was permitted to see Dr. White's letters, and the reasons, too, for which they are here published. But if the subject of *stealing* letters be hereafter resumed, either by the one person, to whom I have before alluded, or by any of his advocates, I shall think myself at liberty to hold a much stronger language. In the mean while, I shall content myself with defying all proof of the accusation, and expressing my sorrow for the great indiscretion of him, who has ventured to allege it.

Miss Badcock's feelings have been severely wounded, from the attacks that have been made upon the reputation of a Brother,
whose

whose abilities commanded her admiration, and whose kindness merited her gratitude. She persisted in her claims upon Dr. White, because she thought them founded in justice. She conceived, that by abandoning the Note, she was virtually insulting the memory of her Brother, for receiving a promise, of which he had no right to enforce the payment. She was not bound to relinquish those claims, which her Brother might have been disposed to relax, from that knowledge which he and Dr. W. alone, could have of the services for which the Note was given. She is incapable of doing deliberate injustice to Dr. White---and of her sincere and pious regard for her Brother, she has given a clear and honourable proof, by applying a considerable part of the money hitherto received from Dr. W. to the payment of some debts that had been incurred by Mr. Badcock, during a long, painful, and expensive illness.

I shall never be ashamed of avowing the great reverence which I felt for the genius and learning of Mr. Badcock, or the obligations which lie upon me to protect those,

who were near and dear to him, from insult, and from injury.---I never saw Mr. Badcock till about six months before his death. He was introduced to me at his own request; and One object of that introduction was, to enquire how far it might be convenient for me to employ him as my Assistant at the Octagon Chapel in Bath. The conviction which I felt, of his uncommon endowments, and the respect which I bore to the taste and good sense of my congregation, made me listen to his offer, with more than usual attention and usual satisfaction. But here, alas! Death deprived me of an able and faithful Assistant---my congregation of a judicious Instructor---and, as Dr. White eloquently expresses himself, in his Letter to Miss Badcock, "*Learning, of one of her brightest ornaments; and Religion, of one of her ablest defenders.*"

From my short acquaintance, and intended connection with Mr. Badcock, and from the access which I have had to his papers, when I was acting for the benefit of his Sister, conclusions have been drawn, by the advocates of Dr. White, to the prejudice of my
repu-

reputation as a preacher.---It was circulated at first, in broken murmurs ; and has since been maintained in mischievous and audacious assertions, that I have purchased Mr. Badcock's Sermons, with an intention to preach them. To these insinuations, however artful---to these assertions, however positive---I give the most unequivocal and solemn denial. I never purchased any papers of Mr. Badcock, upon any subject, for any purpose. I was permitted to see them, because, by seeing them, I could be enabled to serve his Sister, and to vindicate myself. Let me not, therefore, be thought arrogant, if I disdain to enter farther into any vindication of my own character, till those who hear me, shall have reason to think, that I stoop to the miserable arts of deliberate and habitual plagiarism. Such a charge ought not to be produced by one Clergyman against another, unless he that produces it, is conscious that he speaks truth of a Brother, and that the *SAME truth cannot be spoken of HIMSELF*. Such a *charge will come with
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* I have already told the reader, of my having borrowed a Discourse from the Professor, before I knew that he had
been

peculiar ill grace from the anonymous and officious advocates of a man, who, amidst circumstances of great ecclesiastical advantages, and great literary credit, has published what is not *altogether* the production of his own genius, and his own learning.--- The candid part of the publick will, I am sure, treat every accusation of this kind with

been assisted by Mr. Badcock; and, as to the circumstance of borrowing a Sermon from an Eminent Writer, it is neither so uncommon, nor unbecoming, as to require concealment from a man, who does not *affect* any extraordinary degree of talents, and who, in the usual course of his Ministry, is obliged to take some pains in preparing what he delivers from the Pulpit, before a most Respectable Congregation.

It is my duty to state every instance, in which I even expected, as well as received, any favour from the Professor.--- On the second day of April, 1787, when we were on amicable terms, and I supposed him to be the *sole* Writer of the BAMPTON LECTURES, I sent Dr. W. an invitation to favour me with a visit, and requested of him to oblige me with a Sermon, for the benefit of the Bath Hospital. I received from him the following answer, which I here publish, for *reasons* well known to Dr. White, and his Friends.

‘ OXFORD, *April* 11, 1787.

‘ DEAR SIR,

‘ Your letter, dated April 2, has only reached me this moment; having been absent from Coll: upwards of three weeks, and having forgotten to leave orders with the Porter

‘ to

with contempt. I cannot however forget, that such an accusation, though false, might, if uncontradicted, be very injurious to myself---but I defy those who have produced it, to bring forward even the slightest proof.

Upon the whole, then, the candid and intelligent part of my readers will do me the justice to remember, that I have never hinted, that Dr. White had *no* share in the BAMPTON LECTURES---and that I have never professed to examine, much less to determine, whether his share was not equal, or even superior, to that of Mr. Badcock. All I con-

‘ to forward my letters to me. I came from Warwickshire
‘ this morning, and return thither to-morrow.

‘ I thank you sincerely for your kind congratulation, and
‘ am extremely sorry it is not in my power to oblige you
‘ with regard to the Hospital Sermon. I am at present very
‘ particularly engaged; and can neither find a morning’s
‘ leisure to write a Discourse, nor if I had a Discourse writ-
‘ ten, could I possibly come to Bath, to deliver it at the time
‘ you mention.

‘ I hope to pay my respects to you and Mrs. Gabriel, in
‘ about two months time, and am,

‘ Your very obliged, and

‘ affectionate Friend and Servant,

‘ J. WHITE.

‘ *Rev. Dr. GABRIEL,*

‘ *No. 14, Bladud’s Buildings, Bath.*’

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tend for is, that Mr. Badcock was frequently consulted upon the propriety of such matter as Dr. White himself furnished; that he was frequently commissioned to employ matter of his own; and that he has written enough to establish his own credit, as a man of great talents, and to justify my assertion, of Dr. White's being under *particular obligations* to Mr. Badcock.---This, I knew in part, while Mr. Badcock was living---This I have known more fully, since he was dead---This I concealed from the publick view, during his life-time---This I mentioned not in promiscuous conversation, after his death, till Dr. White had trifled with Miss Badcock's claims, and misrepresented my own well-meant conduct. This, I should not now have laid before the publick, if my Veracity and Honour had not been rudely and repeatedly attacked, by reports in the University of Oxford, and by paragraphs in the Newspapers---by Reports, which never can be supported by Proof; and by Paragraphs, of which the Authors have not dared to produce their Names.

4 OC 58

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